

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicant appreciates the consideration shown by the Office, as evidenced by the Office Action, mailed on 17 May 2006. In that Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings, rejected claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-13 and 16, and objected to claims 4, 5, 9, 10, 14, and 15. After consideration of the Office Action, the specification has been amended, claims 1, 6, and 11 have been amended, and claim 16 has been canceled. Claims 1-15 are under consideration in the present application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application by the Examiner in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

### **Drawing Objection**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for noting the typing error in Applicant's specification. Applicant has amended the specification to refer to number 44 (which is in FIG. 2) instead of the previously incorrect number 42.

### **35 USC 102(e)**

Claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wall US20040178641. Claim 16 has been canceled.

With respect to claims 1, 6, and 11, Applicant has amended claims 1, 6, and 11 to clarify that the phase shift is a phase shift of a voltage over time. Support for this recitation can be found, for example, in Applicant's specification paragraphs 16 and 17 and in FIG. 4.

The phase "shift" in Wall appears based on a different principle. Instead of multiple measurements over multiple time periods, one measurement is obtained and passed through two PLLs 56 and 58. The phase shift used in Wall is between the two angles that are obtained by the two PLLs and does not appear to represent a shift in voltage over time.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 6, 11, and define allowable subject matter over the applied art. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested, and allowance of these is respectfully solicited.

### **35 USC 103(a)**

Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Wall and Dautriche US6304113. Each of these claims depends from claim 1, 6, or 11 which Applicant believes to be in condition for allowance over Wall for the reasons discussed above regardless of whether Dautriche might relate to zero-crossing techniques.

Furthermore, the zero-crossing techniques of Dautriche appear to relate to clock synchronization as opposed to phase shift determination of a voltage as recited by Applicant's claims. With respect to zero crossings, Dautriche describes: (a) "determining" zero crossing times (column 2, lines 30-33); (b)

looking at which clock signal has a closest rising edge time with respect to a zero crossing (column 3, lines 51-53); and (c) comparing "the zero crossing times with the rising edges of clock signals CK1 to CK4, and accordingly controll[ing] each multiplexer 19 to select one of these clock signals, so that the zero crossing times of the digital signals coincide with one another" (column 4, lines 63-67).

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 12 and 13 define allowable subject matter over Wall and Dautriche.

Objection to dependent claims

Claims 4, 5, 9, 10, 14 and 15 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 4-5 depend from claim 1, claims 9-10 depend from claim 6, and claims 14-15 depend from claim 11. Applicant believes claims 1, 6, and 11 to be in conditions for allowance for the reasons discussed above and therefore respectfully submits that claims 4, 5, 9, 10, 14, and 15 are allowable in their present condition.

Summary

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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